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wage are here exhibited in the concrete, and are discussed and evaluated in detail. As Mr. Tawney remarks, the extension, intricacy, and variety of the tailoring trade makes the attempt to set up minimum wages there almost a crucial test of the measure. It is a test whose results, so far as they have developed, ought to satisfy all reasonable friends of the minimum wage policy. Mr. Tawney presents abundant evidence to show that most of the stock objections to the measure have not been sustained. Trade union activity has been encouraged instead of discouraged; for the establishment of a minimum wage creates an incentive to organization, makes the workers conscious of their corporate interests, and puts into the hands of the poorest paid the means of enrolling in unions. Hence the membership of the tailoring unions has increased, and in several districts substantial advances of wages over the legal minimum have been secured. Very decidedly the minimum has not become the maximum. The advances in wages brought about by the law have not to any substantial degree caused higher prices or excessive "speeding up," but have been derived mainly from improved organization of production, as exemplified in greater efforts to train apprentices, in the instalment of better processes and equipment, in the redivision and regrouping of productive operations, and in greater attention to costs and cost accounting. Only a few of the workers, and these are among the slowest, have been displaced. In a word, the disadvantageous results of the law seem to be insignificant socially when compared with its solid benefits.

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NEW BOOKS

BOWLEY, A. L. *The war and employment*. (New York: Oxford Univ. Press. 1915. Pp. 21. 5c.)

HUNTER, R. *Labor in politics*. (Chicago: The Socialist Party. 1915. Pp. 202. 25 cents.)

The political policy of the American Federation of Labor is here subjected to searching criticism from the viewpoint of a socialist. The method made famous by Mr. Samuel Gompers, of rewarding "your friends" and punishing "your enemies" while avoiding the organization of a separate labor party, is weighed and found wanting. In short, Hunter declares that the present political methods of the federation "are a delusion and a snare." If collective action is desirable in connection with industry, surely, it is urged, united action is advantageous

in the political field. The backwardness of the United States in regard to labor legislation and social welfare measures is apparently ascribed solely to the political policy of Mr. Gompers and the American Federation of Labor. Other factors such as the influence of the frontier and of our eighteenth century constitution are not mentioned, and seemingly not considered of importance.

Mr. Hunter's thesis is that labor can succeed politically and industrially only when it asserts its independence on both the industrial and the political field—a thesis dear to the heart of the socialist. Many concrete illustrations are presented indicating that organized labor in the United States is subservient in politics to the manufacturers while at the same time it is vigorously struggling by means of organized action to obtain freedom from the dominance of the latter in the industrial field. A chapter is devoted to the anti-union activities of the American Association of Manufacturers and Martin Mulhall. Colorado is also held up as a fine example of the dismal failure of the political policy of the American Federation. In this state while a considerable number of "card men" were in the legislature and also in responsible administrative offices, occurred perhaps the most bitter struggle in the history of American labor and capital—a struggle which culminated in the Ludlow massacre and in the conviction of J. R. Lawson.

The greater strength and more distinguished leadership of organized labor in Europe are ascribed to independent political action. It is confidently asserted that, through labor parties, organized labor in Europe has won the right to use the boycott and the picket. "In Europe, injunctions are unknown in labor disputes, and so also are gunmen, thugs, and private armies in the employ of capitalists" (p. 138). The conclusion is reached that political subserviency to the men who furnish the sinews of war to the old parties, inevitably tends not only to sap the political strength of organized labor but also to undermine the unions in the industrial field.

FRANK T. CARLTON.

LONGDEN, F. *Apprenticeship in ironmoulding: a comparison of apprenticeship conditions in English and Belgian foundries.* (London: Hodgson Pratt Memorial. 1915. 6d.)

Fourth annual report on labour organization in Canada, for the calendar year 1914. (Ottawa: Dept. Labour. 1915. Pp. 238.)

Report of the departmental committee appointed to investigate the danger attendant on the use of paints containing lead in the painting of buildings. (London: Wyman. 1915. Pp. 134. 1s. 2d.)

War organisation in the distributing trades in Scotland. First report of the departmental committee. (London: Wyman: 1915. 2d.)

Women's employment. Interim report of the central committee. (London: Wyman. 1915. 5d.)